

(pertaining to all "fluids") rather than "aero-" (pertaining just to "gases").

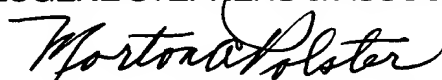
The deletion from claim 12 clarifies the claim by removing a confusing and inadvertently included phrase.

Applicants' provisional election of the species shown in FIGS. 9-11 has, in effect, withdrawn claims 3, 4, 6-11, 14-16, and 18 without prejudice. In this regard, however, applicants also note that each of the withdrawn claims 3, 4, 6-11, 14-16, and 18 include all of the limitations in each of the generic claims 1, 2, 12, 13, and 17.

Therefore, in the event that any of the generic claims 1, 2, 12, 13, and 17 is found allowable, applicants also respectfully request the further examination of withdrawn claims 3, 4, 6-11, 14-16, and 18 which read on the species shown in FIGS. 6-8, FIGS. 12-14, FIGS. 15-17, FIGS. 18-20, and FIGS. 21-23. Further, applicants reserve the right to file divisional or continuation applications based upon the withdrawn claims without prejudice to this application.

For any question on this or the application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Dated: OCT 28 1999

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.

Date of Deposit: OCT 28 1999

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